

## Children's Books

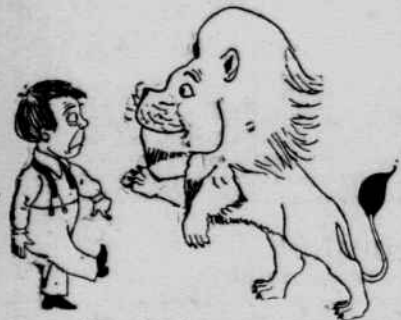
Continued from Page Twelve.

When he gets to writing about what he knows he is enormously fascinating. He has three youngsters for his characters, and a good deal besides bees comes into the delightful yarn. This seems to me a book not to be missed if you have a boy, or a girl for that matter, handy.

Emerson Hough is another man who knows what he knows and writes of it. His Young Alaskan series is a prime favorite, and in "The Young Alaskans on the Missouri" (Harpers) Uncle Dick and his three boy chums follow the track of Lewis and Clark, and our advice is for as many boys as possible to do the same thing, in the book, anyhow. They'll have a mighty good time and learn a lot too.

Wireless is the magic of to-day and hardly a boy but is under its spell. Lewis C. Thess has written several wireless books, this year's volume being "The Young Wireless Operator with the Oyster Fleet" (Wilde). It not only tells a lot about wireless but about the oyster industry, an amazingly interesting subject, and it puts our national habit of waste squarely before the growing youth of the country. The book is splendidly written and full of meat as a nut.

Fourteenth volume of the U. S. Service series, by Francis Holt-Wheeler, is "The Boy with the U. S. Miners" (Lothrop, Lee & Shepard). No need to say much of this, for these books have become boy classics,



From "The Well in the Wood." By Bert Leston Taylor. (Knopf.)

performing a fine service in acquainting boys with the different Government services. Each is supervised by experts in its subject.

"Arnold Affair with the English Aces" (Little, Brown) is the second book Arnold has flown through. Laurence LaTourette Driggs is the author, and he knows how to sustain the interest. The young American hero has been flying with the French, but he now joins the English and becomes one in a famous squadron. Spies and dangers, thrills of all sorts and plenty of flying and fun vary the book and help to make it one that every boy will enjoy.

A. Hyatt Verrill starts a new series with "The Boy Adventurers in the Forbidden Land" (Putnam). The land of the Kuna Indians in Darien is the forbidden spot, and the boy heroes get caught there and have a wild time of it before they are rescued with the aid of an American aviator. The thing begins with an idol bought at an auction who proves to be stuffed with radium clay, and it goes on without let or pause and with considerable fascination. The boys certainly have it all over the girls when it comes to books.

History is not neglected, Everett T. Tomlinson especially having scored a number of hits with his many books. "Scouting with Mad Anthony" (Appleton) takes two lads and plunges them into the heart of affairs under the great leader along the Ohio in the days of the Indian fighting in that territory. This is a part of the country and a period that has been oddly overlooked and that is exceedingly rich, and the book turns out a real find. Needless to say, it is a thoroughly good bit of work.

Rick and Ruddy are two youngsters who have had a number of adventures, and the new book, "Rick and Ruddy Afloat" (Milton Bradley), will be welcomed. Rick is a boy and Ruddy a dog, and a fine pair they are. They go on a cruise with a jolly uncle-sailor in a power boat, taking along a chum of Rick's, and they have plenty of adventure, some of it very amusing, some dangerous. Howard R. Garis is the author, and he understands boys.

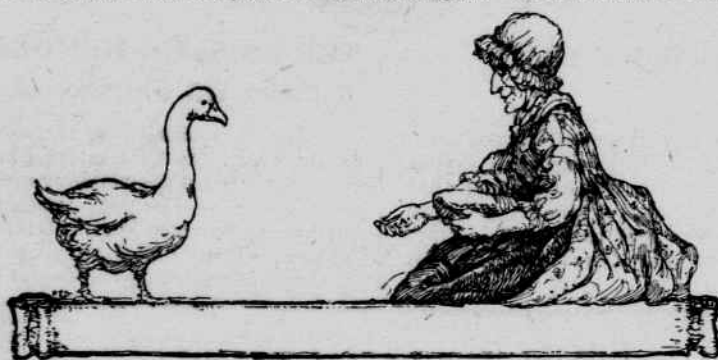
Ralph Henry Barbour's stories of school and college life are part of each season. He knows school athletics as few do. "Coxswain of the Eight" (Appleton) is one of his boarding school yarns, and it is mighty good. He gets real boys into his stories, which are full of a fine spirit.

Another school yarn is Earl Reed Silver's "At Hillsdale High" (Appleton). Something is the matter at Hillsdale, as Ward Jackson discovers soon after he gets there. The school spirit isn't what it ought to be. But a lot happens before the story is told, and things work out as they should to the good of the boys and the school. Lots of athletics in the book, and boys like that.

Latta Griswold has written several books laid at a school called Deal, and he has

book, and it is true stuff, too. Older readers will get a good time out of it as well as the boys.

Two books that take up the working side of a boy's life are "Andy Blake in Advertising," by Edward Edson Lee, and "Dan's To-morrow," by William Heyliger (both Appleton). The advertising story takes a small-town boy who must make his own way through various jobs until he arrives in the city and a big agency and there makes good. The lad is a fine chap and



From "Tales Told by the Gander." (Doran.)

made good with them. "The Tides of Deal" (Macmillan) is the new one. The favorite, Deering, to be sure, has left the school, but the new boy featured here is a fine chap. There is a good plot, and the character drawing is excellent, while the presentation of school and schoolboy problems, school politics and ideals is thorough and interesting. Another famous school of the book world is St. Timothy's, created by Arthur Stanwood Pier. "David Ives" (Houghton Mifflin) is laid there, at least for its first half, though David enters Harvard about the middle of the book. David is a boy worth meeting, and his story is admirably told.

Last of the series books comes "Famous Leaders of Character" (Page), covering America through the latter half of the nineteenth century, in the Famous Leader Series, Edwin Wildman, former editor of the *Forum*, is the author. Such men as William Lloyd Garrison, Horace Greeley, Lincoln, Lee, Wendell Phillips, Cleveland, Moody and Sankey, Burroughs and Roosevelt, with others reaching as close to our day as Calvin Coolidge, have been selected for the brief and well done biographies, which deal chiefly with the youth of the different men, though a full picture is given. It is men whose greatness of character and high ideals have been their moving force who have been chosen for this collection.

All these books have illustrations by well known illustrators, two or three or several, but these are not of particular importance. It is the story that's the thing in these approaches to the true novel. The press-work is uniformly excellent.

But when Charles Livingston Bull makes the pictures, as he has for Samuel Scoville, Jr.'s, remarkable story, "The Inca Emerald" (Century), then a special word must be said. For his pictures have imagination as well as beauty. As for the book, it is one of the best adventure stories I've read in a long while. It is written with a delightful playfulness in spots, with a keen feeling for suspense, and with plenty of rich local color, and as the locality is the vast and seething basin of the Amazon, the great mountains beyond and at last the City of the Incas and lakes thereabout, it is local color that is as exciting as life and death, snakes and wicked natives and all manner of dangers can make it. The same men who played a part in Scoville's last year yarn, also a peach, "The Blue Pearl," are found here, with a professor added, and a big addition he proves.

A true boy yarn is "Skinny Harrison, Adventurer" (Lothrop, Lee and Shepard), by Walter Scott Story. Skinny is leader of the village boys by reason of his delightful humor, his resource in ideas of derring-do and his general unexpectedness. There is many a good laugh in the

the story has fun in it as well as lots of first hand information, for the author is an advertising man of repute. The other story is a labor and capital yarn, the rich youngster who inherits his father's business coming to grips with the young leader of his men in the factory. It is an absorbing story in itself, and it puts many matters which bear thinking about before its readers in a manner to appeal to boys.

Two volumes dealing with Navy matters are "Dan Quin of the Navy," by Edward L. Beach (Macmillan), and "Won for the Fleet," by Lieut-Commander Fitzhugh Green, U. S. N. (Dutton). Capt. Beach also is a navy man, and both books are written from intimate inside knowledge. Beach's book is a tale of the high seas and actual navy life during the years of the war, and it is a splendid story of rough adventure, fine devotion to duty and character building. The other tale is laid at Annapolis and relates to the cadet and midshipman life there and on the training ship at sea. It depicts the making of two fine men from two boys who were each in different ways deficient.

"The Mystery of Ramapo Pass" (Houghton-Mifflin) is one of Everett T. Tomlinson's much liked historical novels for boys, set in the days of the Revolution and mingling romance and adventure acceptably with its history. "Fur Sign" is by Hal G. Evarts (Little, Brown) and tells how two boys about sixteen, from the city slums, get to the country through the efforts of a fresh air society and then elect to remain there and to go into the forest as trappers. We leave the boys settled to work as ranchers at the end of the fur trapping season, both they and the reader having learned a lot about the wilderness and its ways.

A story meant for both girls and boys is by Edna Turpin, "Whistling Jim" (Century). It is placed in the mountains of Virginia, well known to the author, and it is told with sympathy and interest. Moonshiners play a part, and the virtues and the errors of the mountaineers, the hardships of their lives, the splendid faith and courage inherent in them are wound into the plot, which is sure to hold the readers, young or older, who take it up.

And now to finish with a handful of books for girls. And I begin with "Wisp" (Macmillan), by Katharine Adams, because I have found it a particularly charming story. Wisp is a little Irish maid of Dublin, without much of this world's goods, but with a whole soulful of the other kind, and the story about her and the friends she makes and the things she does is a good and pleasant story. There are lovely bits of song and poetry scattered through it that add to its charm.

Another tiptop book for a girl is by

Continued on Following Page.



From "Charlie and His Kitten Topsy." (Macmillan.)

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